

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-10 are pending in this application.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Chu (U.S. Patent No. 5,920,899. Claims 2 and 4-10 were allowed.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of Claims 2 and 4-10.

The outstanding rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3 recites in part:

a plurality of block control circuits provided  
corresponding to said respective processing blocks,  
said block control circuits controlling corresponding  
processing blocks by a clock synchronization respectively and  
transferring a handshaking control signal with other block  
control circuits, thereby controlling a data transfer between  
said processing blocks by self-synchronization type  
handshaking,  
wherein said data processing system further includes an  
arbitration circuit for interfacing with an external system,  
said arbitration circuit transferring a system control  
signal synchronous with a clock with said external system,  
thereby creating said handshaking control signal based on said  
system control signal.

Thus, in the invention recited in Claim 3, an inner system is controlled by creating a handshaking control signal based on a system control signal transferred from an external system. In other words, Claim 3 recites *semi*-self-synchronization control by handshaking signals.

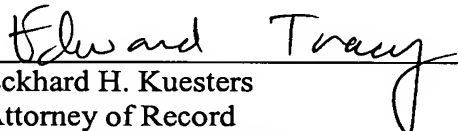
In contrast, Chu discloses a *complete* self-synchronization control system where an inner data transfer is controlled only by handshaking signals. In fact, the outstanding Office Action does not specify what signals described by Chu are asserted to be “a system control signal synchronous with a clock” and a “handshaking control signal based on said system

control signal” as recited in Claim 3.<sup>1</sup> As the structure of the circuit described by Chu is very different from the invention recited in Claim 3, it is respectfully submitted that Chu does not teach “an arbitration circuit” as defined in Claim 3. Consequently, as Chu does not teach each and every element of Claim 3, Claim 3 is not anticipated by Chu and is patentable thereover.

Accordingly, no further issues are believed to be outstanding and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>1</sup>See the outstanding Office Action, page 3, lines 1-3.